

Naat'áí Nahat'á Hane'

Legislative Branch News

23RD NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

SPRING COUNCIL SESSION - APRIL 2017



Navajo Nation Council votes to replace current NHA board members

By Jared Touchin

On April 20th, the Navajo Nation Council voted 16-4 in support of Legislation No. 0145-17, which would effectively remove the current Navajo Housing Authority board of commission members, if the resolution is approved by President Russell Begaye. The emergency legislation was added to the Spring Session agenda by a vote of 17-1.

In January, the Council approved resolution CJA-13-17 to lower the number of NHA board members from eight to five members and to increase and improve the qualification criteria for board members.

CJA-13-17 stated that the changes would take effect 120 days after the President signed it on Feb. 10th.

The legislation passed on April 20th would change the effective date to state that the changes would take effect "immediately" after the President signs it into law. If signed into law, the resolution would immediately remove the current board members.

In his opening remarks to Council, legislation sponsor Council Delegate Jonathan Perry (Becenti, Crownpoint, Huerfano, Lake Valley, Nageezi, Nahod-

ishgish, Tse'ii'ahi, Whiterock) said a change in board members is necessary to improve NHA and to provide more homes for Navajo people.

According to the legislation, NHA completed 26 homes in 2016, 50 homes in 2015, and 21 homes in 2014, while failing to expend large amounts of annual federal funding.

Council Delegate Leonard Tsosie (Baca/ Prewitt, Casamero Lake, Counselor, Littlewater, Ojo Encino, Pueblo Pintado, Torreon, Whitehorse Lake) spoke in support of the legislation, adding that the

See "NHA BOARD", Page 2

Navajo Nation Council honors high school state basketball champions

By Crystalyne Curley

During the Spring Council Session, the Council recognized and congratulated high school girls basketball teams from St. Michael Indian School, Sanders Valley High School, Tohatchi High School, and Shiprock High School for winning state championships in their respective divisions. The 23rd Navajo Nation Council presented each player and coach with plaques and medallions as they received a standing ovation on the Council floor.

"We are honored to have our youth with us at the Spring Council Session to recognize their accomplishments and success. On behalf of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council, we congratulate them for their ded-

ication and for winning state championships for their schools and the Nation," stated Speaker LoRenzo Bates (Nenahnezad, Newcomb, San Juan, Tiis Tsoh Sikaad, Tse'Daa'Kaan, Upper Fruitland).

The St. Michael Indian High School girls basketball team won the 2016 – 2017 1-A division Arizona state basketball championship, the Sanders Valley High School girls basketball team won the 2016 – 2017 2-A division Arizona state basketball championship title, the Tohatchi High School girls basketball team won the 2016 – 2017 3-A division New Mexico state basketball championship title, and the Shiprock High School won the 2016 – 2017 4-A division New



PHOTO: (above) Council Delegate Jonathan Hale recognizing the St. Michael Indian High School girls basketball team during the 2017 Spring Council Session on April 18, 2017.

See "BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS", Page 3

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lack of proper management at NHA has led to wasteful spending and a severe shortage of homes for students, elderly, veterans, and families.

"When you have people living in storage units that is a testament to the mismanagement at NHA," stated Delegate Tsoisie.

The Council was also informed that congressional members and staff recently visited the Navajo Nation and shared their concerns over the performance of NHA and noted that the Navajo Nation could face one of several repercussions including having the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development take over the housing program, having a cap placed on federal funds that the Navajo Nation receives, or having a freeze placed on NHA funding.

Speaker Bates, President Begaye, and Council Delegate Alton Joe Shepherd (Jeddito, Cornfields, Ganado, Kin Dah Lichíí, Steamboat) recently issued

a letter to the current board members outlining their concerns and disappointment with the current state of NHA, and requested the immediate resignation and/or removal of NHA's managing officers.

Delegate Shepherd serves as the chair of the Resources and Development Committee, which has oversight authority over NHA.

Prior to taking action on the legislation, the Council met with President Begaye who said he fully supports the legislation, adding that he has met many people throughout the Navajo Nation who have told him that they have "given up" on trying to obtain housing through NHA. He added that many times housing applicants are told that their documents have been misplaced and many have been on waiting lists to receive housing for years. He also noted that many Navajo people are now resorting to purchasing and living in storage units due to the lack of housing on

the Navajo Nation.

Since the Council approved the changes to the NHA board in January, the board positions have been advertised and approximately 30 individuals have submitted applications. President Begaye stated that interviews are ongoing and that he wants to have new board members selected by the end of the week.

Prior to voting on the legislation, the Council also approved an amendment directing NHA to ensure the safety of all official documents due to concerns with the questionable practices of NHA and the possibility of NHA destroying, damaging, or removing documents and property.

The Council approved Legislation No. 0145-17 with a vote of 16-4. President Begaye will have ten calendar days to consider the resolution once it is sent to the Office of the President and Vice President.

"Diné Nation" legislation fails to garner enough support

By Crystallyne Curley

On the second day of the Spring Council Session, Legislation No. 0395-16 failed to garner enough support from the Navajo Nation Council. The bill sought to amend Title II of the Navajo Nation Code for the purpose of changing the designated name of the "Navajo Nation" to "Diné Nation."

During the Winter Council Session in January, the Council tabled the legislation along with a directive to hold a work session to hear perspectives from others such as the elderly and the Navajo Code Talker Association. Council members also requested cost estimates on implementing the name change, chapter resolutions to assess the public's input, and additional research on the origin of the word, "Diné."

Legislative sponsor Council Delegate Jonathan Hale (Oak Springs, St. Michaels) stated that the name change would only apply to the Navajo Nation government including departments, divisions, agencies, entities, and enterprises.

"The name change would only reflect the Navajo Nation government. Other non-governmental entities would not be affected by the change, such as the Navajo Code Talkers. This was the request of our youth," stated Delegate Hale.

The legislation states that all correspondence, stationary, and letterheads of Navajo government entities would use "Diné Nation" rather than "Navajo Nation."

Council Delegate Leonard Tsoisie (Baca/Prewitt, Casamero Lake, Counselor, Littlewater, Ojo Encino, Pueblo Pintado, Torreon, Whitehorse Lake) opposed the name change, stating that it would create confusion and frustration among Navajo citizens and non-Navajos.

"I thought there was a main intent for the name change, but it would only apply to the tribal government, not everyone. This will confuse and frustrate many people. We should be discussing more important things on the Council floor today, such as the obstacles and the needs of the Navajo people," stated Tsoisie.

During Tuesday's discussion, Council Delegate Norman M. Begay (Alamo, Ramah, Tohajilee) proposed an amendment to exempt the communities of Alamo, Tohajilee, and Ramah from the adopting the name change, stating that the chapters did not have enough time to discuss and consider the name change.

"The proposed amendment will only create more confusion. The Navajo Nation is one nation and no chapter should separate themselves," stated Council Delegate Edmund Yazzie (Churchrock, Iyanbito, Mariano Lake, Pinedale, Smith Lake, Thoreau) in opposition of the amendment, which eventually failed with a vote of 6-17.

Navajo Nation Office of Controller to the Council, stated that in order to replace calendars, promotional items, stationery, stationery supply forms, and office supply promotions would cost the Navajo Nation government approximately \$57,000.

In support of the legislation, Council Delegate Davis Filfred (Mexican Water, Aneth, Teecnospos, Tólikan, Red Mesa) stated that the name change would be a positive change for the Nation.

"The word 'Navajo' is not our people's word. The term is not apart of our traditional language. The Spaniards and the federal government gave us that identity as 'Navajo'. Diné College has created a positive model for us to follow. One day, we will change our name like the college," stated Delegate Filfred.

Council Delegate Tom Chee (Shiprock) stated that the name change would not promote a comprehensive purpose and meaning.

"I do not support the name change because it is a mixture of two languages. The word 'Diné' is a traditional term and 'Nation' is an English term. 'Diné Nation' is not a complete thought and it would only create more confusion for our youth," stated Delegate Chee.

Council Delegate Walter Phelps (Cameron, Coalmine Canyon, Leupp, Tolani Lake, Tsidi To ii) recommended that the Navajo public through a referendum election vote on the proposed name change.

"They have the right to decide how to address themselves and the tribal government. This legislation could be a referendum," stated Phelps.

At the conclusion of the debate, the Navajo Nation Council voted down Legislation No. 0395-16 by a vote of 9-14. The Navajo Nation Council serves as the final authority for the bill.



PHOTO (above): Council Delegate Walter Phelps during the discussion of Legislation No. 0395-16 during the second day of the 2017 Spring Council Session on April 18, 2017.

A letter dated April 12th from the Na-

Basketball Champions / cont. from Page 1

Mexico state basketball championship title.

Council Delegate Raymond Smith, Jr. (Houck, Klage-toh, Nahata Dziil, Tsé Si áni, Wide Ruins) presented the awards to Sanders Valley High School basketball team and Council Delegate Steven Begay (Coyote Canyon, Mexican Springs, Naschitti, Tohatchi, Bahastl'a'a') congratulated the Tohatchi High School girl's basketball teams during the opening day of Spring Council Session.

"Our Navajo people cherish the sport of basketball. The game teaches our Navajo youth discipline, strength, and teamwork. Many of our Navajo citizens traveled to Phoenix and Albuquerque during

the championship games to support our children and four of our Navajo teams made it to the top. We are so proud of them," stated Delegate Begay.

Council Delegate Jonathan Hale (Oak Springs, St. Michaels) recognized the St. Michael Indian High School basketball team and Council Delegate Tom Chee (Shiprock) presented the awards to the Shiprock High School basketball team on the second day of the Spring Council Session.

"As a former teacher and coach of Shiprock High School, I am greatly honored to recognize the players for their prestigious title they have accomplished this year. It takes persistence, strength, and

faith to reach a high level of honor," stated Delegate Chee.

The Council Chamber gallery was filled with the family members and fans of each team who came to support the teams and coaches.

Delegate Hale added, "We also thank and acknowledge the teachers, parents, and community members of each team for their continuous support and prayers for our young leaders. Thank you for praying and encouraging our Navajo youth to do their best and push their limits."



PHOTO (above): Council Delegate Ramond Smith, Jr. and the Sanders Valley High School girls basketball team during the 2017 Spring Council Session on April 17, 2017 in Window Rock, Arizona.



PHOTO (above): Council Delegate Steven Begay, 2016 - 2017 Miss Navajo Nation Ronda Joe, and the Tohatchi High School girls basketball team during the 2017 Spring Council Session on April 17, 2017 in Window Rock, Arizona.



PHOTO (above): Council Delegate Jonathan L. Hale and the St. Michael Indian High School girls basketball team during the 2017 Spring Council Session on April 18, 2017 in Window Rock, Arizona.



PHOTO (above): Council Delegate Jonathan L. Hale, Council Delegate Tom L. Chee, Council Delegate Otto Tso, Council Delegate Leonard Tsosie, and the Shiprock High School girls basketball team during the 2017 Spring Council Session on April 18, 2017.

Spring Council Session highlights autism awareness, sexual violence prevention, and the Ramah Settlement

By Jolene Holgate

During the four-day Spring Session, the 23rd Navajo Nation Council presented several recognition awards during the 2017 Spring Council Session. Among them, three of the recognitions related to the Worldwide Autism Awareness Day on April 2, sexual violence prevention and awareness, and the Ramah Navajo Settlement.

On the first day of the session, Council Delegate Jonathan Hale (Oak Springs, St. Michaels) presented a plaque to recognize eight year-old Jasmine Miller who aided in the establishment of Worldwide Autism Awareness Day, in which former President Barack Obama signed a proclamation establishing April 2 as the official awareness day throughout the country.

Jasmine was born in Fort Defiance and is in the second-grade. Her maternal clan is Tó'aheedlíníí (Water Flowing Together) and her paternal clan is Naakai Dine'é (Mexican Clan). Jasmine's parents are Rosabelle and Edward Miller, and her family is originally from Lukachukai.

According to her mother, Jasmine started her journey over a year ago with her brother Samuel Miller, who is diagnosed with autism. She traveled around different areas on and off the Navajo Nation to encourage people to sign a pledge and to wear blue

family," said Delegate Hale.

Ten-year old Samuel was born in Goodyear, Ariz. and is in the fourth grade. He was diagnosed with autism at the age of three and was not able to communicate for a period of time. However, he was enrolled into a school that provided therapy and he was soon able to learn to effectively communicate, said his mother.

On the opening day of the session, chair for the Naabik'iyáti' Sexual Assault Prevention Subcommittee Council Delegate Amber Kanazbah Crotty (Beclabito, Cove, Gadi'í'áhi/To'Koi, Red Valley, Tooh Haltsooi, Toadlena/Two Grey Hills, Tsé ałnáoz't'í), announced the "Start by Believing" campaign.

"What we want to do is to make sure that when victims who are afraid to come forward because they are not believed, or are chastised by an overworked system—we do not want them to feel ashamed. We want to tell them that we recognize that they are going through heartache and that there are people who believe their story," said Delegate Crotty.

Delegate Crotty said the campaign seeks to change the response to sexual assault and to end the cycle of silence to encourage victims to come forward, and to inspire Navajo communities to be an integral support system to sexual assault survivors.

erbull from the Coalition to STOP Violence Against Native Women and Shannon Hoshnic from the Sexual Assault Services of Northwest New Mexico, for their advocacy and dedication to sexual violence prevention and to promote awareness through public education.

Council Delegate Leonard Tsosie (Baca/Pre-witt, Casamero Lake, Counselor, Littlewater, Ojo Encino, Pueblo Pintado, Torreon, Whitehorse Lake) presented a recognition award to Earla Begay, a former Navajo Nation accountant who discovered that the federal government had failed to effectively calculate and negotiate indirect cost rates, resulting in the Ramah Navajo Chapter v. Jewell settlement, in which the Navajo Nation was awarded \$58 million.

Delegate Tsosie said when she brought the matter to leaders, they did not take the matter seriously the first time. However, as time progressed, Begay was able to convince the chapter and the Nation there was a significant discrepancy in the IDC rate owed to the Navajo Nation.

"A long, long time ago Earla was quietly working at her desk and looking at the account numbers and she realized, 'this is not right, I think the U.S. government is short changing us.' When you're by yourself, sometimes your supervisor and others don't believe you, but when you are persistent, your diligence can really make an impact," said Delegate Tsosie.

Over the past 35 years, she worked with tribal governments and organizations, gained professional experience and knowledge in accounting, financial management, indirect costs, grants and contracts administration, and audits, added Delegate Tsosie.

"The tremendous benefit that her persistence and her intellect has brought forth, and in her prayer, because I don't doubt that she did this without prayer, for the strength to do this. On behalf of the Navajo Nation, we thank you Earla Begay—you truly helped the Navajo people," said Delegate Tsosie.



PHOTO (above): Council Delegate Jonathan L. Hale recognizing Jasmine Miller and Family during the opening day of the 2017 Spring Council Session on April 17, 2017.



PHOTO (above): Council Delegate Amber Kanazbah Crotty recognizing Deleana Otherbull during the third day of the 2017 Spring Council Session on April 19, 2017.

on April 2 for autism awareness.

Delegate Hale said that Jasmine realized that there was a need for it to be recognized nationally, so last year, Jasmine wrote a letter to former President Obama and expressed her concerns. In the fall of 2016, President Obama wrote back to Jasmine with a signed copy of the presidential proclamation declaring April 2 as World Autism Awareness Day.

"She did this for her brother Samuel because she wanted to be a voice for him, and due to her perseverance and dedication—awareness has been brought to this issue nationally. I want Jasmine to always remember that even if she doesn't have a title like the rest of us on Council, we thank her for being proactive and having the courage to do that for her

"When someone comes to me and says they were raped or sexually assaulted, I pledge to start by believing. I want everybody in this room to learn more about it, to learn how you can help your community, and how you can help your children," said Delegate Crotty.

Delegate Crotty also presented a policy brief to Council entitled, "Protect Navajo Children: The Impact of Sexual Violence," which was developed with the aid of the Navajo Sexual Violence Prevention Workgroup, explains the current status of sexual violence on the Navajo Nation, offers a summary of statistical insight, and provides recommendations to the Council.

Council also recognized the Deleana Oth-



PHOTO (above): Council Delegate Leonard Tsosie recognizing Earla Begay during the first day of the 2017 Spring Council Session on April 17, 2017.

Council supports the creation of the Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council

By Crystalyne Curley

The Navajo Nation Council approved Legislation No. 0019-17 during the third day of the Spring Council Session. If signed into law, the bill would amend Title II of the Navajo Nation Code to establish the Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council.

Legislation sponsor Council Delegate Amber Kanazbah Crotty (Beclabito, Cove, Gadi'i'áhi/To'Koi, Red Valley, Tooh Haltsooi, Toadlena/Two Grey Hills, Tsé ałnáoz't'l'í) explained the intent of the legislation and added that having Navajo youth at the decision-making table was important.

"The intent of the legislation is to empower and acknowledge our Navajo youth and their contribution to the Navajo Nation government decision-making. Our Navajo youth are an untapped resource that can provide innovative approaches to modern issues by blending traditional and modern concepts. It is time for our Navajo youth to be at the table," stated Delegate Crotty.

The legislation states that the youth council will be established under the executive branch and consist of 12 members, from ages 14 to 24-years old. Two members would be appointed from each of the

five Navajo agencies and two members will served to represent the Nation at-large. Members would be recommended by the Office of Diné Youth and appointed by the President, the Speaker, and the Chief Justice.

The current representatives on the Navajo Nation Youth Council are as follows:

- Jackie Johnson, Western Navajo Agency representative
- Chris Brown, Western Navajo Agency representative
- Triston Black, Central Navajo Agency representative
- Cali Chee, Northern Navajo Agency representative
- Deshawna Begay, Northern Navajo Agency representative
- Deshane Begay, Northern Navajo Agency representative
- Cody Morgan, Eastern Navajo Agency representative
- Virlencia T. Begay, Ft. Defiance Agency representative
- Marlon Lexington Murphy, Ft. Defiance Agency representative

- Megan LaRose, At-large Navajo Agency representative

In August, President Russell Begaye, Speaker LoRenzo Bates Bates (Nenahnezad, Newcomb, San Juan, Tiis Tsoh Sikaad, Tse'Daa'Kaan, Upper Fruitland), and Acting Chief Justice Allen Sloan signed an agreement to create a Navajo Nation Ad Hoc Youth Council to establish a mechanism that would allow the voices of the Navajo youth to be heard.

"It takes emotional, psychological, spiritual, and mental strength to become a leader. I hope each of the youth council members have the stability to carry on the duties and responsibilities. You have to know yourself and your identity to help your people. I really encourage our Navajo youth to have bi-cultural skills to make policy decisions," stated Council Delegate Tom Chee (Shiprock).

According to the legislation, the purpose of the youth council would be to provide policy advice to the President, Navajo Nation Council, and the Judicial Branch in regards to youth issues and concerns. The youth council would identify issues impacting Navajo

See "YOUTH COUNCIL", Page 6

Council extends statute of limitations for ethics and rules cases

By Jolene Holgate

On the third day of the Spring Session, the 23rd Navajo Nation Council considered Legislation No. 0108-17, which seeks to amend Navajo Nation Code Title II § 3769 to extend the statute of limitations from four years to five years for ethics and rules cases of tribal officials and Navajo Nation employees, who are investigated for embezzlement, mismanagement of tribal funds, and ethics violations.

According to the legislation, the Office of Ethics and Rules would take no action after five years from the date of official notice.

Legislation sponsor Council Delegate Dwight Witherspoon (Black Mesa, Forest Lake, Hardrock, Pinon, Whippoorwill), said the Office of Ethics and Rules may have limited time, or much time has passed since a case was initiated, and extra time is needed to ensure a full investigation, proper legal filings were made, and the case was rectified in the best outcome possible for the Navajo Nation.

"One of the reasons why this was recommended was because of Conditions of Appropriations, reviews, and sanctions on chapters or departments. As they come across information for recommendations, they have to go back a number of years to investigate the funds that were expended or unauthorized, and sometimes that can go back as far as three administrations," said Delegate Witherspoon.

He added that due to the lack of appropriate staffing and resources, it has led the Office of Ethics and Rules to fall behind on investigating and filing cases in court. The extension is important to prevent the closure of cases because 34-percent of the closures are due to the statute of limitations expiring, said Delegate Witherspoon.

Office of Ethics and Rules executive director

Stacy Allison, stated that the old statute language prohibited her office from filing a case "more than four years after the action has accrued," meaning from when a last fraudulent check was cashed or signed. The Navajo Nation Auditor General might file an intake with the Office of Ethics and Rules today, but the start of that investigation may have occurred two to three years ago.

She said that if it reveals an unauthorized use of Navajo Nation funds actually occurred five years ago under the old statutory language, the statute of limitations would be expired and the Office of Ethics and Rules would not be able to bring a case to the Navajo Nation Office of Hearings and Appeals for prosecution.

In support of the legislation, Council Delegate Nathaniel Brown (Chilchinbeto, Dennehotso, Kayenta) said it was important to extend the statute of limitations in order to hold Navajo elected officials and employees accountable for their participation in embezzlement and mismanagement of funds.

"There is no such thing as an 'honest mistake' – individuals sign off on those documents and know exactly what they are doing when they are dealing with money. Our Navajo Nation ethics and rules laws have a lot of holes in it, and this is one step closer to protecting our people's money and the integrity of our Nation. It is about accountability and the oath that we took, and I don't understand how 'honest mistakes' can happen," said Delegate Brown.

Council Delegate Tuchoney Slim, Jr. (Bodaway/Gap, Coppermine, K'ai'Bii'To, LeChee, Tonalea/Red Lake) said that crimes against the Navajo Nation are not only related to mismanagement of Navajo funds, but it is also addressing ethics com-

plaints regarding the conduct and behavior of elected officials.

"They are elected to serve the people – they need to be held accountable too. They need to show in their work that they work for the people and make sure they uphold their oaths, morals, and behavior, because it's not just about money. They should know the rules and responsibilities as elected officials and employees," said Delegate Slim.

Council Delegate Kee Allen Begay, Jr. (Low Mountain, Many Farms, Nazlini, Tachee/Blue Gap, Tselani/Cottonwood) recommended to Council that the Office of Ethics and Rules carry out an assessment of their office in terms of staffing and resources, and to propose a budget for the upcoming fiscal year to address their needs to improve their services and case processing.

Council members voted 18-0 to approve Legislation No. 0108-17, which required two-thirds or 16 supporting votes from the Council. President Russell Begaye will have ten calendar days to consider the resolution once it is sent to the Office of the President and Vice President.



PHOTO (above): Council Delegates discussing Legislation No. 0108-17 during the 2017 Spring Council Session.

Council amends the Navajo Nation Election Code to shorten the filing and application review periods

By Jolene Holgate

On the final day of the Spring Session, the Navajo Nation Council considered Legislation No. 0098-17, which would amend the Navajo Nation Election Code 11 § 22 and 23 to shorten the candidate filing period from 90-days to 14-days, and the candidate application review period from 30-days to 14-days. According to the legislation, the initial purpose of the 90-day filing period was to allow candidates sufficient time to circulate nomination petitions to gather supporting signatures, but the election laws have since been amended and nomination petitions are no longer required.

Council Delegate Dwight Witherspoon (Black Mesa, Forest Lake, Hardrock, Pinon, Whippoorwill), co-sponsor for the legislation, said amending the election code is needed because it would streamline the filing and review process. "As many of us know, some Navajo Nation Codes are outdated and this is an attempt to update one of them. In the past, a petition was required to be nominated to run for an office, however, laws have been changed to just needing to submit an application," said Delegate Witherspoon. He added that the Navajo Board of Election

Supervisors made the recommendation to amend the election code and provided a supporting resolution. The Navajo Board of Election Supervisors said they have determined that filing and review periods no longer need a significant amount of time to process. Council members voted 16-0 to approve Legislation No. 0098-17. President Russell Begaye will have ten calendar days to consider the resolution once it is sent to the Office of the President and Vice President.

Navajo Nation Council demands assistance in addressing uranium contamination in the water supply near the community of Sanders

By Jared Touchin

During the second day of the 2017 Spring Council Session on April 18th, the Navajo Nation Council unanimously approved Legislation No. 0345-16, demanding support from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation, Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency, state of Arizona, and Apache County in addressing uranium contamination in the water supply near the community of Sanders – located near the Navajo community of Nahata Dził in the southwest portion of the Navajo Nation. Legislation sponsor Council Delegate Raymond Smith, Jr. (Houck, Klagetoh, Nahata Dził, Tsé Si áni, Wide Ruins), who represents several chapters near Sanders, has advocated for the small rural communities particularly for students within the Sanders Unified School District that have been affected by the contaminated water supply. "This has been an ongoing problem for too

long. We need all of these entities to come together and fix this problem for the health and wellness of our people," stated Delegate Smith, who previously noted that the school district has had to provide bottled water to the students to avoid having them consume contaminated water, which is costing the school district. "It is becoming a financial burden for the school district," added Delegate Smith. "Our students should not have to worry about the safety of their water when they are at school." The legislation states that in August 2016, the Sanders Unified School District had their water tested and the results showed that the sample collected exceeded the maximum contaminate level for uranium. It further states that the community and the school are in need of new water lines to prevent additional contamination from the water delivery system. The bill also cites a water assessment study

entitled, "The Puerco-Little Colorado River Watershed Navajo Community-Based Uranium Water Quality Assessment Project," which determined that water wells located in Sanders and the school district contain unsafe levels of uranium in September 2015. The Nahata Dził Commission Governance through a resolution passed in July 2015 also supports the legislation, which also requests each of the entities to provide short-term and long-term alternative water supplies for the school district, new water lines for the community and school district, provide monitoring and documentation among other requests. The Navajo Nation Council voted 17-0 in support of Legislation No. 0345-16. The Navajo Nation Council serves as the final authority for the bill.

Youth Council / cont. from Page 5

youth and offer guidance and solutions to tribal leaders. During the discussion, Council Delegate Davis Filfred (Mexican Water, Aneth, Teecnospos, Tólikan, Red Mesa) shared a concern for the legislation, which centered on the well being of youth council members. "It is hard for me to approve this legislation. As a father and a leader, we protect our children from negative conflicts and issues. Some people have harsh words and thoughts and it is sensitive for our children to be in that negative atmosphere. I am worried about their well being," stated Delegate Filfred. Council Delegate Steven Begay (Coyote Canyon, Mexican Springs, Naschitti, Tohatchi, Bahastl'a'a') recommended the youth council to consider including Navajo principles and values within the enabling

legislation and to consider the recommendations from other youth organizations within the Navajo Nation. At the conclusion of the discussion, the Navajo Nation Council approved Legislation No. 0019-17 with a 15-2 vote. The President will have ten calendar days to consider the resolution once it is sent to the Office of the President and Vice President.



PHOTO (above): Council Delegate Amber Kanazbah Crotty and members of the Navajo Nation Youth Council during the discussion of Legislation No. 0019-17 on the third day of the 2017 Spring Council Session on April 19, 2017.

2017 Spring Council Session Recognitions



PHOTO (above): Council Delegate Kee Allen Begay, Jr. recognizing Helen Yazzie and Family for for the service and advocacy regarding uranium contaminated sites awareness during the 2017 Spring Council Session. The Nez family continues to support research and assessments, community engagement, and uranium policy initiatives.



PHOTO (above): Council Delegate Tom L. Chee recognizing the Shiprock High School JROTC for winning the 2016 – 2017 New Mexico State JROTC Military Skills Meet (5A) championship title. The JROTC also posted the colors during the opening day of the 2017 Spring Council Session on April 17, 2017.



PHOTO (above): Council Delegate recognizing Carmirae Holguin and DesignBuildBLUFF of the University of Utah during the 2017 Spring Council Session for the close partnership and commitment with the Dennehotso Sweat Equity Project and providing the opportunity to build suitable, safe, and comfortable homes within the Navajo Nation.



PHOTO (above): Council Delegate Leonard Tsosie recognizing Dee Yazzie and Dan Arnold of KTNN AM - 660 during the 2017 Spring Council Session for their outstanding Navajo cultural teachings and entertainment for the “The Voice of the Navajo Nation”.



PHOTO (above): Council Delegate Raymond Smith, Jr. recognizing the Renewal of Hope Task Force during the 2017 Spring Council Session for their outstanding service and successfully completing the task of closing three liquor establishments within the Sanders, Ariz. area. The task force’s effort has made the surrounding communities safer and reunited many families.



PHOTO (above): Council Delegate Jonathan L. Hale recognizing Cody Jesus during the 2017 Spring Council Session for winning the 2016 Indian National Finals Rodeo Bull Riding Championship and thanking Mr. Jesus for proudly representing the Navajo Nation and serving as a positive role model for Native youth.

2017 Spring Council Session

Legislation Results

*Chaired the discussion - Only votes in the event of a tie

LEGISLATION 0403-16

Amending Resolution CJA-03-14 extending the time for a limited waiver of sovereign immunity to allow the Navajo Nation to be sued in Federal District Court for compliance with the National Environmental Protection Act to carry out the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Grants and authorizing the President of the Navajo Nation to be the certifying tribal official to execute Form 7015.15 through September 20, 2021.

PRIMARY SPONSOR
Davis Filfred

ACTION: FAILED
(Required 2/3 or 16 votes from Council)

YEA (14):
Kee Allen Begay, Jr.
Steven Begay
Nelson S. BeGaye
Benjamin L. Bennett
Nathaniel Brown
Tom Chee
Amber Kanazbah Crotty
Seth Damon
Herman Daniels, Jr.
Davis Filfred
Leonard H. Pete
Walter Phelps
Alton Joe Shepherd
Dwight Witherspoon

NAY (6):
Jonathan Hale
Tuchoney Slim, Jr.
Raymond Smith, Jr.
Otto Tso
Leonard Tsosie
Edmund Yazzie

NOT VOTING (4):
*Speaker LoRenzo Bates
Lee Jack, Sr.
Jonathan Perry
Norman M. Begay

LEGISLATION 0345-16

Requesting support from the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Office of Navajo-Hopi Indian Relocation, the Navajo Nation Environmental Protections Agency, the state of Arizona, Apache County, Arizona for Assistance in addressing unranium contamination in the water supply near Sanders, Arizona.

PRIMARY SPONSOR
Raymond Smith, Jr.

ACTION: PASSED

YEA (17):
Kee Allen Begay, Jr.
Steven Begay
Nelson S. BeGaye
Benjamin L. Bennett
Tom Chee
Seth Damon
Davis Filfred
Jonathan Hale
Jonathan Perry
Leonard H. Pete
Walter Phelps
Alton Joe Shepherd
Raymond Smith, Jr.
Otto Tso
Leonard Tsosie
Dwight Witherspoon
Edmund Yazzie

NAY (0):

NOT VOTING (7):
*Speaker LoRenzo Bates
Norman M. Begay
Nathaniel Brown
Amber Kanazbah Crotty
Herman Daniels, Jr.
Lee Jack, Sr.
Tuchoney Slim, Jr.

LEGISLATION 0431-16

Approving Supplemental Funding from the Unreserved, Undesignated Fund Balance in the amount of \$248,587 to the Navajo Nation Election Administration Office to hold the Transportation Stimulus Plan Referendum

PRIMARY SPONSOR
Walter Phelps

ACTION: REFERRED to Naa-bik'iyátí' Committee

YEA (14):
Norman M. Begay
Steven Begay
Benjamin L. Bennett
Tom Chee
Amber Kanazbah Crotty
Seth Damon
Davis Filfred
Jonathan Hale
Jonathan Perry
Leonard H. Pete
Walter Phelps
Otto Tso
Leonard Tsosie
Dwight Witherspoon

NAY (6):
Kee Allen Begay, Jr.
Nelson S. BeGaye
Lee Jack, Sr.
Alton Joe Shepherd
Raymond Smith, Jr.
Edmund Yazzie

NOT VOTING (4):
*Speaker LoRenzo Bates
Herman Daniels, Jr.
Nathaniel Brown
Tuchoney Slim, Jr.

LEGISLATION 0355-16

Adopting the Síhasin Fund Twin Arrows/Glittering Mountain Family Entertainment Center Economic Development Expenditure Plan pursuant to Resolution CD-68-14 and 12 N.N.C. § § 2501-2508

PRIMARY SPONSOR
Jonathan L. Hale

ACTION: REFERRED to Naabik'iyátí' Committee
(Required 2/3 or 16 votes from Council)

YEA (13):
Norman M. Begay
Steven Begay
Benjamin L. Bennett
Tom Chee
Amber Kanazbah Crotty
Seth Damon
Davis Filfred
Jonathan Hale
Lee Jack, Sr.
Leonard H. Pete
Walter Phelps
Otto Tso
Leonard Tsosie

NAY (7):
Kee Allen Begay, Jr.
Nelson S. BeGaye
Jonathan Perry
Alton Joe Shepherd
Raymond Smith, Jr.
Dwight Witherspoon
Edmund Yazzie

NOT VOTING (4):
*Speaker LoRenzo Bates
Nathaniel Brown
Herman Daniels, Jr.
Tuchoney Slim, Jr.

LEGISLATION 0395-16

Amending 2 N.N.C. § 501 and adding section 2 N.N.C. § 503.

PRIMARY SPONSOR
Jonathan L. Hale

ACTION: FAILED
(Required 2/3 or 16 votes from Council)

YEA (9):
Nelson S. BeGaye
Nathaniel Brown
Amber Kanazbah Crotty
Seth Damon
Davis Filfred
Jonathan Hale
Lee Jack, Sr.
Tuchoney Slim, Jr.
Dwight Witherspoon

NAY (14):
Kee Allen Begay, Jr.
Norman M. Begay
Steven Begay
Benjamin L. Bennett
Tom Chee
Herman Daniels, Jr.
Jonathan Perry
Leonard H. Pete
Walter Phelps
Alton Joe Shepherd
Raymond Smith, Jr.
Otto Tso
Leonard Tsosie
Edmund Yazzie

NOT VOTING (1):
*Speaker LoRenzo Bate

2017 Spring Council Session

Legislation Results

*Chaired the discussion - Only votes in the event of a tie

<p>LEGISLATION 0020-17</p> <p>Adopting the Síhasin Fund Senior Citizens Expenditure Plan Pursuant to CD-68-14 and 12 N.N.C. § § 2501-2508</p> <p>PRIMARY SPONSOR Amber Kanazbah Crotty</p> <p>ACTION: TABLED (Required 2/3 or 16 votes from Council)</p> <p>YEA (11): Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Norman M. Begay Steven Begay Tom Chee Amber Kanazbah Crotty Davis Filfred Jonathan Hale Jonathan Perry Walter Phelps Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Edmund Yazzie</p> <p>NAY (5): Nathaniel Brown Herman Daniels, Jr. Otto Tso Leonard Tsosie Dwight Witherspoon</p> <p>NOT VOTING (6): *Speaker LoRenzo Bates Nelson S. BeGaye Benjamin L. Bennett Seth Damon Lee Jack, Sr. Leonard H. Pete Alton Joe Shepherd Raymond Smith, Jr.</p>	<p>LEGISLATION 0108-17</p> <p>Amending the Navajo Nation Code Title 2 at 2 N.N.C. § 3769</p> <p>PRIMARY SPONSOR Dwight Witherspoon</p> <p>ACTION: PASSED (Required 2/3 or 16 votes from Council)</p> <p>YEA (18): Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Norman M. Begay Steven Begay Benjamin L. Bennett Nathaniel Brown Tom Chee Amber Kanazbah Crotty Herman Daniels, Jr. Davis Filfred Jonathan Hale Jonathan Perry Walter Phelps Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Raymond Smith, Jr. Otto Tso Leonard Tsosie Dwight Witherspoon Edmund Yazzie</p> <p>NAY (0):</p> <p>NOT VOTING (6): *Speaker LoRenzo Bates Nelson S. BeGaye Seth Damon Jonathan Hale Leonard H. Pete Lee Jack, Sr. Leonard H. Pete Alton Joe Shepherd</p>	<p>LEGISLATION 0035-17</p> <p>Approving the Reinstatement of Sean Jeffry King as a Member of the Navajo Nation</p> <p>PRIMARY SPONSOR Edmund Yazzie</p> <p>ACTION: PASSED</p> <p>YEA (18): Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Norman M. Begay Steven Begay Benjamin L. Bennett Nathaniel Brown Tom Chee Amber Kanazbah Crotty Herman Daniels, Jr. Davis Filfred Lee Jack, Sr. Jonathan Perry Walter Phelps Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Raymond Smith, Jr. Otto Tso Leonard Tsosie Dwight Witherspoon Edmund Yazzie</p> <p>NAY (0):</p> <p>NOT VOTING (6): *Speaker LoRenzo Bates Nelson S. BeGaye Seth Damon Jonathan Hale Leonard H. Pete Alton Joe Shepherd</p>	<p>LEGISLATION 0047-17</p> <p>Appointing Mr. Emmett Kerley to the Commission on Navajo Government Development as the Western Agency Council Representative</p> <p>PRIMARY SPONSOR Walter Phelps</p> <p>ACTION: PASSED</p> <p>YEA (18): Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Steven Begay Benjamin L. Bennett Nathaniel Brown Tom Chee Amber Kanazbah Crotty Seth Damon Herman Daniels, Jr. Davis Filfred Jonathan Hale Lee Jack, Sr. Jonathan Perry Walter Phelps Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Otto Tso Leonard Tsosie Dwight Witherspoon Edmund Yazzie</p> <p>NAY (0):</p> <p>NOT VOTING (6): *Speaker LoRenzo Bates Norman M. Begay Nelson S. BeGaye Benjamin L. Bennett Leonard H. Pete Alton Joe Shepherd Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Raymond Smith, Jr.</p>	<p>LEGISLATION 0107-17</p> <p>Approving and Confirming the Nomination of Crystal J. Cree to the Navajo Government Development Commission</p> <p>PRIMARY SPONSOR Jonathan L. Hale</p> <p>ACTION: PASSED</p> <p>YEA (15): Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Steven Begay Nathaniel Brown Tom Chee Amber Kanazbah Crotty Seth Damon Herman Daniels, Jr. Jonathan Hale Lee Jack, Sr. Jonathan Perry Walter Phelps Raymond Smith, Jr. Otto Tso Leonard Tsosie Edmund Yazzie</p> <p>NAY (1): Davis Filfred</p> <p>NOT VOTING (8): *Speaker LoRenzo Bates Norman M. Begay Nelson S. BeGaye Benjamin L. Bennett Leonard H. Pete Alton Joe Shepherd Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Dwight Witherspoon</p>
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2017 Spring Council Session

Legislation Results

*Chaired the discussion - Only votes in the event of a tie

<p>LEGISLATION 0229-16</p> <p>Approving Supplemental Funding from the Unreserved, Undesignated Fund Balance in the Amount of \$400,000, in the form of a grant, for Diné Bii Association for Disabled Citizens, Inc.</p> <p>PRIMARY SPONSOR Walter Phelps</p> <p>ACTION: PASSED</p> <p>YEA (17): Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Steven Begay Benjamin L. Bennett Nathaniel Brown Tom Chee Amber Kanazbah Crotty Herman Daniels, Jr. Davis Filfred Jonathan Hale Lee Jack, Sr. Jonathan Perry Walter Phelps Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Raymond Smith, Jr. Otto Tso Leonard Tsosie Edmund Yazzie</p> <p>NAY (0):</p> <p>NOT VOTING (7): *Speaker LoRenzo Bates Norman M. Begay Nelson S. BeGaye Seth Damon Leonard H. Pete Alton Joe Shepherd Dwight Witherspoon</p>	<p>LEGISLATION 0335-16</p> <p>Approving Supplemental Funding from the Unreserved, Undesignated Fund Balance in the Amount of \$3,000,000, to the Navajo Nation Chapter Veterans Organizations</p> <p>PRIMARY SPONSOR Raymond Smith, Jr.</p> <p>ACTION: TABLED</p> <p>YEA (14): Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Norman M. Begay Steven Begay Nathaniel Brown Tom Chee Seth Damon Herman Daniels, Jr. Jonathan Hale Jonathan Perry Leonard H. Pete Walter Phelps Raymond Smith, Jr. Otto Tso Dwight Witherspoon</p> <p>NAY (5): Nelson S. BeGaye Amber Kanazbah Crotty Davis Filfred Leonard Tsosie Edmund Yazzie</p> <p>NOT VOTING (5): *Speaker LoRenzo Bates Benjamin L. Bennett Lee Jack, Sr. Alton Joe Shepherd Tuchoney Slim, Jr.</p>	<p>LEGISLATION 0347-16</p> <p>Rescinding CAP-18-14; Authorizing the Navajo Nation Chapters to submit proposals for the Capital Improvement Plan to the Capital Improvement Office, or its Successor; Directing the Capital Improvement Office, or its Successor, to develop the Capital Improvement Priority List in full compliance with the Navajo Nation Capital Improvement Process as codified at 12 N.N.C. § 860 ET SEQ; Directing the Capital Improvement Office, or its Successor, to provide a report to the Naabik'iyáti' Committee regarding the Capital Improvement Priority List no later than January 12, 2017</p> <p>PRIMARY SPONSOR Kee Allen Begay, Jr.</p> <p>ACTION: PASSED</p> <p>YEA (21): Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Norman M. Begay Steven Begay Nelson S. BeGaye Benjamin L. Bennett Nathaniel Brown Tom Chee Amber Kanazbah Crotty Seth Damon Herman Daniels, Jr. Davis Filfred Jonathan Hale Jonathan Perry Leonard H. Pete Walter Phelps Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Raymond Smith, Jr. Otto Tso Leonard Tsosie Dwight Witherspoon Edmund Yazzie</p> <p>NAY (0):</p> <p>NOT VOTING (3): *Speaker LoRenzo Bates Lee Jack, Sr. Alton Joe Shepherd</p>	<p>LEGISLATION 0042-17</p> <p>Designating that the Net Proceeds recieved from the United States through Settlement of Navajo Ramah Chapter, ET AL, V. Jewell, No. 90-CV-957 (D.N.M.), be Deposited in the Síhasin Fund Pursuant to CD-68-14 and 12 N.N.C. § 22501</p> <p>PRIMARY SPONSOR Walter Phelps</p> <p>ACTION: REFERRED to Naabik'iyáti' Committee</p> <p>YEA (9): Speaker LoRenzo Bates Norman M. Begay Steven Begay Nelson S. BeGaye Nathaniel Brown Seth Damon Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Leonard Tsosie Dwight Witherspoon</p> <p>NAY (8): Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Tom Chee Amber Kanazbah Crotty Herman Daniels, Jr. Jonathan Perry Raymond Smith, Jr. Otto Tso Edmund Yazzie</p> <p>NOT VOTING (7): Benjamin L. Bennett Davis Filfred *Jonathan Hale Lee Jack, Sr. Leonard H. Pete Walter Phelps Alton Joe Shepherd</p>	<p>LEGISLATION 0145-17</p> <p>An action relating to an Emergency; Amending CJA-13-17 regarding the Effective Date to Address the threat to Direct Services to the Navajo Nation</p> <p>PRIMARY SPONSOR Jonathan Perry</p> <p>ACTION: PASSED</p> <p>YEA (16): Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Norman M. Begay Steven Begay Nelson S. BeGaye Benjamin L. Bennett Amber Kanazbah Crotty Seth Damon Herman Daniels, Jr. Jonathan Perry Leonard H. Pete Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Raymond Smith, Jr. Otto Tso Leonard Tsosie Dwight Witherspoon Edmund Yazzie</p> <p>NAY (4): Nathaniel Brown Tom Chee Lee Jack, Sr. Walter Phelps</p> <p>NOT VOTING (4): *Speaker LoRenzo Bates Davis Filfred Jonathan Hale Alton Joe Shepherd</p>
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2017 Spring Council Session

Legislation Results

*Chaired the discussion - Only votes in the event of a tie

<p>LEGISLATION 0055-17</p> <p>Enacting the “Navajo Nation Public Safety System Fund Act of 2017,” Amending Title 12 of the Navajo Nation Code and Establishing the “Navajo Nation Public Safety System Fund” to include moneys recieved from the United States through Settlement of Ramah Navajo Chapter, ET AL. V. Jewel</p> <p>PRIMARY SPONSOR Edmund Yazzie</p> <p>ACTION: REFERRED to Naa-bik’iyáti’ Committee</p> <p>YEA (10): Norman M. Begay Steven Begay Nelson S. BeGaye Tom Chee Seth Damon Lee Jack, Sr. Walter Phelps Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Leonard Tsosie Dwight Witherspoon</p> <p>NAY (7): Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Amber Kanazbah Crotty Herman Daniels, Jr. Jonathan Perry Raymond Smith, Jr. Otto Tso Edmund Yazzie</p> <p>NOT VOTING (7): *Speaker LoRenzo Bates Benjamin L. Bennett Nathaniel Brown Davis Filfred Jonathan Hale Leonard H. Pete Alton Joe Shepherd</p>	<p>LEGISLATION 0098-17</p> <p>Amending the Navajo Nation Election Code at 11 N.N.C. § § 22 and 23 by Shortening Candidate Filing Period from 90 to 14 Days and Shortening the Candidate Application Review Period from 30 to 14 Days</p> <p>PRIMARY SPONSOR Jonathan L. Hale</p> <p>ACTION: PASSED</p> <p>YEA (16): Norman M. Begay Steven Begay Nelson S. BeGaye Tom Chee Amber Kanazbah Crotty Seth Damon Herman Daniels, Jr. Lee Jack, Sr. Jonathan Perry Walter Phelps Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Raymond Smith, Jr. Otto Tso Leonard Tsosie Dwight Witherspoon Edmund Yazzie</p> <p>NAY (0):</p> <p>NOT VOTING (8): *Speaker LoRenzo Bates Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Benjamin L. Bennett Nathaniel Brown Davis Filfred Jonathan Hale Leonard H. Pete Alton Joe Shepherd</p>	<p>LEGISLATION 0102-17</p> <p>Confirming Paulene T. Thomas as the Navajo Gaming Regulatory Office Executive Director</p> <p>PRIMARY SPONSOR Alton Joe Shepherd</p> <p>ACTION: PASSED</p> <p>YEA (14): Norman M. Begay Steven Begay Nelson S. BeGaye Tom Chee Amber Kanazbah Crotty Seth Damon Herman Daniels, Jr. Lee Jack, Sr. Jonathan Perry Walter Phelps Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Otto Tso Leonard Tsosie Dwight Witherspoon</p> <p>NAY (1): Raymond Smith, Jr.</p> <p>NOT VOTING (9): *Speaker LoRenzo Bates Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Benjamin L. Bennett Nathaniel Brown Davis Filfred Jonathan Hale Leonard H. Pete Alton Joe Shepherd Edmund Yazzie</p>	<p>LEGISLATION 0111-17</p> <p>Amending CD-67-06, Establishing August 14th of each year the Navajo Nation Code Talkers Day and as a Navajo Nation Holiday, to an Observed Holiday of the Navajo Nation</p> <p>PRIMARY SPONSOR Jonathan L. Hale</p> <p>ACTION: PASSED</p> <p>YEA (10): Norman M. Begay Steven Begay Tom Chee Amber Kanazbah Crotty Seth Damon Jonathan Perry Walter Phelps Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Leonard Tsosie Dwight Witherspoon</p> <p>NAY (5): Nelson S. BeGaye Herman Daniels, Jr. Lee Jack, Sr. Raymond Smith, Jr. Otto Tso</p> <p>NOT VOTING (9): *Speaker LoRenzo Bates Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Benjamin L. Bennett Nathaniel Brown Davis Filfred Jonathan Hale Leonard H. Pete Alton Joe Shepherd Edmund Yazzie</p>	<p>LEGISLATION 0119-17</p> <p>Amending Resolution CMY-35-85 by Changing the Date of “Navajo Nation Sovereignty Day” Within the Navajo Nation from April 16th of each year to the Fourth Monday the Month of April of each year, to an Observed Holiday on April 16th of each year within the Navajo Nation</p> <p>PRIMARY SPONSOR Jonathan L. Hale</p> <p>ACTION: PASSED</p> <p>YEA (10): Norman M. Begay Steven Begay Amber Kanazbah Crotty Seth Damon Herman Daniels, Jr. Jonathan Perry Walter Phelps Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Leonard Tsosie Dwight Witherspoon</p> <p>NAY (4): Nelson S. BeGaye Lee Jack, Sr. Raymond Smith, Jr. Otto Tso</p> <p>NOT VOTING (10): *Speaker LoRenzo Bates Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Benjamin L. Bennett Nathaniel Brown Tom Chee Davis Filfred Jonathan Hale Leonard H. Pete Alton Joe Shepherd Edmund Yazzie</p>
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23rd Navajo Nation Council Standing Committees, Subcommittees, Task Forces, and Commissions

Council Standing Committees

Budget and Finance Committee	Health, Education, and Human Services Committee	Law and Order Committee	Resources and Development Committee
Seth Damon (Chair) Dwight Witherspoon (Vice Chair) Tom T. Chee Lee Jack, Sr. Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Leonard Tsosie	Jonathan Hale (Chair) Norman M. Begay (Vice Chair) Steven Begay Nathaniel Brown Nelson S. BeGaye Amber Kanazbah Crotty	Edmund Yazzie (Chair) Raymond Smith, Jr. (Vice Chair) Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Herman Daniels, Jr. Otto Tso	Alton Joe Shepherd (Chair) Benjamin L. Bennett (Vice Chair) Davis Filfred Walter Phelps Leonard H. Pete Jonathan Perry

Subcommittees and Task Forces

Naabik'iyáti' Committee's Síhasin Fund Subcommittee	Naabik'iyáti' Committee's Arizona Gaming Subcommittee	Naabik'iyáti' Committee's Little Colorado River Water Rights Subcommittee	Naabik'iyáti' Committee's State Task Force	Naabik'iyáti' Committee's Title II Reform Subcommittee
Leonard Tsosie Nelson S. BeGay3 Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Nathaniel Brown Tom T. Chee Seth Damon Davis Filfred Lee Jack, Sr. Jonathan Perry Walter Phelps Otto Tso	Alton Joe Shepherd Jonathan Hale Walter Phelps Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Otto Tso Dwight Witherspoon	Walter Phelps Otto Tso Lee Jack, Sr. Dwight Witherspoon Alton Joe Shepherd	Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Steven Begay Nathaniel Brown Tom T. Chee Seth Damon Herman Daniels, Jr. Davis Filfred Jonathan Hale Walter Phelps	Alton Joe Shepherd Norman M. Begay Tom T. Chee Amber Kanazbah Crotty Seth Damon Davis Filfred Jonathan Perry Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Otto Tso
	Naabik'iyáti' Committee's Sexual Assault Prevention Subcommittee	Naabik'iyáti' Committee's Sacred Sites Task Force		
	Amber Kanazbah Crotty Jonathan Perry Nathaniel Brown Jonathan L. Hale Otto Tso Dwight Witherspoon	LoRenzo Bates Davis Filfred Jonathan Hale Jonathan Perry Otto Tso Dwight Witherspoon		

Commissions

Eastern Navajo Land Commission	Navajo-Hopi Land Commission	Utah Navajo Commission
Leonard Tsosie Norman M. Begay Seth Damon Jonathan Perry Edmund Yazzie	Walter Phelps Kee Allen Begay, Jr. Lee Jack, Sr. Alton Joe Shepherd Tuchoney Slim, Jr. Raymond Smith, Jr. Otto Tso Dwight Witherspoon	Nathaniel Brown Herman Daniels, Jr. Davis Filfred

For more information on meeting dates, times, and locations, as well as legislations and news, please visit: www.navajonationcouncil.org